

# DDRS Newsletter

Volume I, Issue I

August 2005

## Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services Newsletter

I am pleased to introduce the first edition of the DDRS Newsletter. This monthly newsletter will provide you and your organization with valuable information on training opportunities, upcoming events, updates on programs and projects underway at the state, and general information of interest to the provider community.

In an effort to improve communication with providers, we are making several changes. Over the next few weeks, you will begin to no-

tice changes in the bulletins that are sent out to our provider network. There will be fewer bulletins and they will be more directly related to policy and procedure.

This newsletter will be released on a monthly basis and will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about training opportunities, events, and projects at the state. Additionally, we will be updating the DDRS section of the FSSA website, making the content more relevant and timely. Make

sure you start checking the web page over the next few months to view the improved content.

Thank you for taking the time to explore this newsletter and for posting it in a place where your employees can read it.

Sincerely,  
*Peter Bisbecos*

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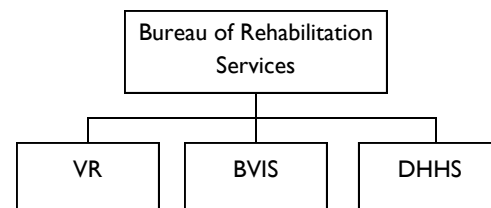
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## Bureau of Rehabilitation Services will Enhance Services

The Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), within DDRS, will oversee and coordinate Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services (DHHS), Blind and Visually Impaired Services (BVIS) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR).

The creation of BRS will greatly enhance the ability of all three programs to serve the wide ranging disability populations they serve. This change in structure allows VR, DHHS, and BVIS to function as a team with improved coordination, common program planning and evaluation, and resource utilization.

The creation of BRS in no way dilutes each separate program



area. Mike Hedden will serve as the Director of the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services and will retain his responsibilities as Director of VR. James VanManen will remain the Director of DHHS and Greg Jinks will be the Director of BVIS.

The Bureau was actually created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1992. It took until 2005

for that to become a reality. The implementation process began in July and will continue in the coming months as programmatic and logistical details associated with the change are worked through.

## Matrix Update

The Matrix stakeholder group met in July to hear about the ICAP (Inventory for Client and Agency Planning) assessment process that was completed at Fort Wayne State Developmental Center.

Arbitre Consulting, Inc. sent a group of assessment professionals to the Developmental Center to administer ICAP assessments for each of the individuals in the Center. With the assistance of staff at

FWSDC, the project went very smoothly and was completed within two-weeks.

An informational meeting was held for family members, guardians and staff before the assessments began. Lilia Teninty, Project Manager for the Matrix, Lynne Keilman-Cruz of Arbitre Consulting, and Ed Wright, Superintendent of FWSDC spoke with attendees about the overall goals of the Matrix project and the

ICAP assessment process. Questions from family members and staff were answered and for most families, this was their first opportunity to meet the new Superintendent. The information gathered from this process will assist with planning for individuals at FWSDC and will provide valuable information on the ICAP assessment itself. This was an important first step in the process of moving toward statewide use of the ICAP assessment.

## Annual Contracts Announced by Governor Daniels

Governor Mitch Daniels announced changes within the Medicaid waiver program on Friday that are projected to save \$14 million annually and allow the state to serve hundreds of Hoosiers who are currently sitting on waiting lists.

The initial savings will come from reducing the administrative burden that has gridlocked the state's delivery of care for years.

Under the new plan, annual contracts will be instituted for people served on the developmental disability, support services and autism waivers. Currently providers must record services provided in 15-minute increments, which creates an administrative nightmare.

The new process will utilize existing plans of care as a guideline for services to be provided for each individual client. An annual care allowance will be developed based upon each client's historical

needs. The provider and client, along with their support team, will have discretion on how these funds are used day by day throughout the upcoming year to deliver the goals outlined in the plan of care.

"Learning to provide support services better, faster and more efficiently saves money without sacrificing care," Daniels said. "The change will actually increase the number of Hoosiers to whom we can provide these services."

Family and Social Services Secretary Mitch Roob, who manages the state's health care programs, said the new billing structure marks the beginning of many substantive changes in the way the state delivers services to its residents.

"Our focus is on the quality of care, not the quantity of paperwork," Roob said. "When we create an environment in which the provider can spend more time with clients and less time on paperwork, we will save money and be able to serve

more clients in the waiver program."

Thousands of Hoosiers seeking waiver services have waited for years to receive those services. Today, over 15,000 people are waiting for some type of service. Friday's announcement marks the first time in years that we are able to offer services to additional individuals.

FSSA will mail letters to providers on Sept. 15 announcing the billing changes, which are scheduled to go into effect Nov. 1 for both the developmental disabled and autism waivers. The support services waiver is scheduled to undergo similar billing changes soon afterward, if not at the same time. By Dec. 1, the savings that are realized as a result of the program will begin to be spent to bring waiver services to new clients, with the ultimate goal of bringing waiver services to an estimated 500 new clients.

You can read the full press release on the FSSA website at: [www.in.gov/fssa/](http://www.in.gov/fssa/)

***"Learning to  
provide support  
services better,  
faster and more  
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money without  
sacrificing  
care..."  
-Mitch Daniels***

## Muscatatuck State Developmental Center Closes

The Muscatatuck State Developmental Center was officially transferred to the Indiana National Guard on July 1, 2005.

The closure of this facility was a 4 year process that took a tremendous amount of planning, dedication and hard work. The closure has had a profound effect on former residents, their families, and all former MSDC

staff. Each transition was thoughtfully carried out with input from the individual, their family, case manager, and the MSDC transition team. A total of 263 individuals were transitioned out of MSDC after the closure announcement was made in April 2001. Individuals from MSDC were placed into the least restrictive setting:

- 69% (182) were placed in a supportive living situation.
- 15% (39) were placed in a group living situation.
- 10% (27) were placed in a 4-bed medical group facility.
- 3% (7) were placed in a nursing facility.

***Only 4 individuals transitioned from MSDC were placed into another state operated facility.***

## New Faces: Greg Jinks

Though Greg Jinks is not really a "new face" he is new to his position as the **Director of the Bureau of Blind and Visually Impaired Services**. Greg was promoted to the Director position in April 2005.

Greg has been involved in Blind Services for most of his career. He began working for the State in 1976 as part of the Business Enter-

prise program, then was the Director of Bosma Industries. After Bosma Industries was privatized, Greg returned to the Blind Enterprise Program where he remained until 2002. After a short stint in the Bureau of Fiscal Services (from 2002-2005) he is glad to be back in Blind and Visually Impaired Services. Greg is enjoying the challenge that comes with change and is

excited by the opportunity to enhance services for Blind and Visually Impaired Hoosiers. He will focus on strengthening the partnership between BVIS and VR to increase cooperation and improve services. Greg and his wife live in Indianapolis. They have two sons, one is a Senior at Cathedral High School and one a Sophomore at Wabash College.

## New Faces: David Gootee

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services is pleased to welcome David Gootee. David started as the Deputy Director of DDRS in July 2005.

David spent over 34 years with Eli Lilly and Co. in Finance and Strategic Development. After retiring from Lilly, he spent 3 years at Stone Belt before being

asked to bring his experience to the State.

As the Deputy Director, David will be very active in operations across the division including BDDS program areas, FWSDC, and management of the recently reorganized DD waiver unit. He will also lead several initiatives across the division, such as the new annual contracts project.

David and his wife, Sandy, are lifelong Indianapolis residents. They have 6 children and 8 grandchildren (so far). When not at work, David keeps very busy golfing, woodworking, or building sets for the Buck Creek Players, a community theater group that he co-founded with his wife.



David Gootee

## Training Opportunities

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### Living Life to the Fullest

**Training Type:** Learn how to develop strategies for supporting people in meaningful, purposeful ways. Understand essential characteristics of a “meaningful day.”

**Sponsor:** Southeast Indiana Outreach Services and Indiana Institute on Disability and Community

**Audience:** Direct Support Professionals, House Managers, QMRPs, and Case Managers

**When/Where:**

August 24 & 25

9:00am - 3:30 pm

Outreach Training Center at Madison State Hospital

Room B-208

**Contact/Registration:** Robin Stearns [Robin.Stearns@fssa.in.gov](mailto:Robin.Stearns@fssa.in.gov) 812-265-7493

\*Class is limited to 12 registrants—Apply before Aug 19, 2005

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### Positive Behavior Supports

**Training Type:** Positive Behavior Supports – What, Why and How of behavioral challenges; the process of Functional Behavioral Assessment; and what to expect from a Behavior Support Plan and Behavioral Consultants.

**Sponsor:** ARC of Indiana and Indiana Association of Behavior Consultants

**Audience:** Parents, Direct Support Staff, Case Managers, Behavior Management Consultants, Teachers, Other Providers...

**Cost:** \$30-\$60

\*Funds from the Governors Council for People with Disabilities will cover the cost of registration for parents and people with disabilities.

**When/Where:**

9:30-3:00 each day

September 14, 2005 Lafayette, IN

October 6, 2005 Richmond, IN

October 27, 2005 Bloomington, IN

November 2, 2005 Merrillville, IN

**More Info:**

The ARC of Indiana

317-977-2375 or 1-800-382-9100

[www.arcind.org](http://www.arcind.org)

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### Foundations of Dysphagia

**Training Type:** Train the Trainer Session

**Sponsor:** Southeast Indiana Outreach Services

**Audience:** Nurses, Therapists, QMRPs, RDs, Staff Development Trainers, Program Directors and House Managers

**When/Where:**

Thursday August 25, 2005

1:00-4:00 p.m.

BDDS Conference Rm, Work One Bldg

700 East Walnut Street

Evansville, IN 47713

Friday, August 26, 2005

9:00 am-12:00

Voc Rehab Conference Room

611 Bartley St

Jasper, IN 47546

**Contact/Registration:** Robin Stearns [Robin.Stearns@fssa.in.gov](mailto:Robin.Stearns@fssa.in.gov)

\*Class is limited to 20 registrants—Apply before Aug 19, 2005

- All Training Opportunities are Free of Charge, unless otherwise noted.
- Please use the contract information provided to register for training or to learn more about each training opportunity.

## Training Opportunities Continued ...

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### VRS 101

**Training Type:** VRS 101 A collaborative exchange of information between employment providers and Vocational Rehabilitation Services to improve the basic understanding of the referral process and essential communication.

**Sponsor:** INAPSE: The Network on Employment

**Audience:** Everyone is welcome to these meetings - not just INAPSE members.

**When/Where:**

Region 3 September 22, 2005  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Crossroads Rehabilitation Center  
4740 Kingsway Drive  
Indianapolis, IN

Region 5 August 31, 2005  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Columbus VRS Office  
Life Long Learning Center  
4555 Central Ave. Ste 1300

**Contact Info:**

INAPSE@hotmail.com or Region 3 contact Ron Roembke 317-466-1000

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### Provider Orientation

**Training Type:** Orientation for providers of BDDS and Waiver Services—credentialing services only

**Sponsor:** Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services

**When/Where:**

September 7, 2005  
Indiana Government Center

**Reservations Required:** Contact Kelly Scott at 317-232-7842

**For More Information:** Contact Patti Frey at 317-232-7127

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### Prevention of Abuse & Neglect

**Training Type:** Learn to identify different types of abuse and neglect; learn your responsibility as a witness to report abuse; ways to prevent abuse and much more.

**Sponsor:** Southeast Indiana Outreach Services and Indiana Institution on Disability and Community

**Audience:** Direct Support Staff, QMRPs, CMs, Program Managers etc.

**When/Where:**

August 31, 2005  
12:30-4:30  
Outreach Training Center at Madison State Hospital  
Room B-208

**Contact/Registration:**

Robin Stearns  
Robin.Stearns@fssa.in.gov  
812-265-7493